## Message Text

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**ACTION EA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

SAM-01 /062 W

----- 121575

R 121011Z MAR 76 FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1138

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RANGOON 0833

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, BM

SUBJECT: NE WIN EXPLAINS TIN OO RESIGNATION

REF: RANGOON 0829

- 1. AT THE MARCH 12 SESSION OF THE HLUTTAW (PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY) PRESIDENT NE WIN DISCUSSED THE RESIGNATION OF DEFENSE MINISTER GENERAL TIN OO (REFTEL) AND HIS REMARKS WERE CARRIED IN LOCAL PAPERS. OPENING BY SAYING THAT THE SUBJECT "IS NOT PLEASANT... BUT UNAVOIDABLE", NE WIN CITED THE NEED FOR DISCIPLINE WITHIN THE GUB LEADERSHIP. IN THE CASE OF GENERAL TIN OO, "ACTION HAD TO BE TAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH MATTERS OF AN ECONOMIC NATURE", AND THE ISSUE IS NOW BEFORE THE PARTY DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE." NE WIN THEN ASSERTED THAT "THE BIGGEST OF WEAKNESSES THAT THERE CAN BE IN MEN OF POWER IS CONNECTED WITH ECONOMIC LIFE WEAKNESS AS REGARDS BRIBES." NE WIN CONCLUDED BY EXPLAINING THAT IN THE TIN OO CASE" WE HAD REFRAINED FROM SAYING ANYTHING OUT OF OUR CONSIDERATION FOR HIM, WITH APPREHENSION THAT IT WOULD TAINT HIS INTEGRITY... BUT SINCE IT MIGHT CAUSE MISUNDERSTANDING WITHIN THE TATMADAW (BURMA ARMY)" THE ISSUE HAD TO BE DISCUSSED PUBLICLY.
- 2. COMMENT: NE WIN'S STATEMENT WAS APPARENTLY NOT DELIVERED ENTIRELY FROM A PREPARED TEXT; IT IS SOMEWHAT RAMBLING AND CLUMSY BUT ITS TONE REFLECTS A SENSE OF PERSONAL SORROW THAT IS PROBABLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REAL. NE WIN EVIDENTLY FELT COMPELLED TO SPEAK OF THE SUBJECT

PUBLICLY TO CLARIFY TO THE ARMY THE REASONS FOR TIN OO'S DISMISSAL
AND HE WAS CAREFUL TO PROTECT THE EX-DEFENSE MINISTER'S PERSONAL
INTEGRITY IN THE PROCESS.
OSBORN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, SPEECHES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 12 MAR 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RANGOO0833

Document Number: 1976RANGOO00833 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D760095-0978 From: RANGOON

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760366/aaaacgfe.tel Line Count: 65

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 RANGOON 829 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: MartinML

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 21 MAY 2004

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by MartinML>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: NE WIN EXPLAINS TIN OO RESIGNATION TAGS: PINT, BM, (NE WIN), (TIN OO)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006